DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND PETITION

I, a below named inventor, depose and say that: (1) my residence, citizenship, and mailing address is indicated below; (2) I have reviewed and understand the contents of my patent application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein, which is identified as U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/729,780, filed October 8, 1996; (3) I believe that the other below named inventors and I are the original, first, and joint inventors or discoverers of the invention or discovery in METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ADHERING LINERLESS REPOSITIONABLE SHEETS ONTO ARTICLES, described and claimed therein and for which a patent is sought; (4) I hereby acknowledge my duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to the patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.*

I hereby appoint Gary L. Griswold, (Reg. No. 25,396), Walter N. Kirn (Reg. No. 21,196), Terryl K. Qualey (Reg. No. 25,148), Warren R. Bovee (Reg. No. 26,434), Gerald F. Chernivec (Reg. No. 26,537), Douglas B. Little (Reg. No. 28,439), David R. Cleveland (Reg. No. 29,524), Leland D. Schultz, (Reg. No. 30,322), and James L. Young (Reg. No. 30,514); my attorneys and/or agents with full powers (including the powers of appointment, substitution and revocation) to prosecute this application and any division, continuation, continuation-in-part, reexamination, or reissue thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith; the mailing address and the telephone number of the above-mentioned attorneys and/or agents are:

Attention: Leland D. Schultz

3M Office of Intellectual Property Counsel

P.O. Box 33427

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

Telephone No. (612) 733-1500

The undersigned petitioner declares further that all statements made herein are true and that all statements that are made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Wherefore, I pray for grant of Letters Patent for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the specification of application Serial No. 08/729,780, filed October 8, 1996, and we hereby subscribe our names to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration, power of attorney, and this petition, on the day set forth below.

Timothy A. Mertens Woodbury m 12/3

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